GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:286
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2002
LARGE STOCK OF DAMAGED FOODGRAINS
NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large stock of damaged foodgrains is lying in the godowns;

(b) if so, the total quantity of such foodgrains, State-wise, foodgrain-wise alongwith the reasons thereto;

(c) the quantity of such foodgrains disposed-of during the last six months;

(d) whether the Union Government have fixed responsibility and have also taken remedial steps to stop such accumulation of foodgrains in godowns;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR)

(a),(b),(c),(d),(e)&(f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.
STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a),(b),(c),(d),(e)&(f) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.286 FOR ANSWER ON 22-03-2002 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a)&(b): As on Ist February, 2002, the quantity of damaged foodgrains available with the Food Corporation of India (FCI) was 2.05 lakh tonnes. Statewise and commoditywise details are given in the enclosed statement (Annex).

FCI undertakes storage of foodgrains mostly in scientifically built godowns and in a scientific manner. The quality of stocks is also monitored by undertaking periodic inspections. However, some damage to foodgrain stocks takes place due to long storage as well as natural calamities, such as flood, cyclone, etc., besides other factors.

(c): 45,068 tonnes of damaged foodgrains have been disposed of during the period August, 2001 to January, 2002.

(d),(e)&(f): Whenever it is found that the damage is on account of lapse or negligence on the part of any official(s), the responsibility therefor is fixed and appropriate action taken. For instance, disciplinary action has been initiated against two Category I officers and 80 Category II and III officers in the North Zone for causing damage to stocks due to negligence, etc.

To prevent damage to foodgrains, the following measures are taken :

(i) Foodgrains are stored mostly in rodent and damp proof godowns.

(ii) Disinfestation measures are undertaken regularly as per laid down protocol.

(iii) Qualified and technically trained staff are deployed for proper upkeep of foodgrains.

(iv) To avoid damage in transit, foodgrains are moved in covered wagons, as far as possible. When moved in open wagons, the same are covered with tarpaulins, etc.

(v) In Cover and Plinth (CAP) storage complexes, the stocks are stored on wooden crates and covered with low density black polythene covers properly lashed with nylon ropes to prevent damage by ballooning of covers during high velocity winds.

Surprise checks of foodgrain stocks are also undertaken by the quality control officers.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a)&(b) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 286 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 2002 IN THE LOK SABHA.

Figures in MTs

Region	Commodity	Wheat	Rice	Paddy	Total stock
Bihar		7879	4453	35	12367
Jharkhand		168	393	0	561
Orissa		209	44	0	253
West Bengal		1783	32008	0	33791
Assam (including Arunachal Pradesh)		50	690	0	740
NEF States (comprising of Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura, Manipur & Nagaland)		13	1743	0	1756
Delhi		27	6	0	33
Haryana		189	40	216	445
Himachal Pradesh		0	0	0	0
Jammu & Kashmir		33	194	0	227
Punjab		11706	11257	117424	140387
Rajasthan		757	1	0	758
Uttar Pradesh		1588	4462	11	6061
Uttaranchal		35	60	78	173
Andhra Pradesh		797	33	0	830
Kerala		9	230	0	239
Karnataka		1103	32	0	1135
Tamil Nadu		124	27	0	151
Gujarat		3347	81	0	3428
Maharashtra		1708	119	0	1827
Madhya Pradesh		344	74	0	418
Chhattisgarh		40	54	0	94
Total		31909	56001	117764	2,05,674